

# FAQs for Intake 2021 Primary 1 parents

## **A. Reporting and Dismissal on the First Day of School**

### **1. What is the school reporting and dismissal time on the first day of school?**

Pupils will report at 7.30am on the first day of school. The reporting time after the first school day remains as 7.30am.

Primary 1 pupils will be dismissed daily from 1.30pm onwards. Please refer to School Operation Information in the Parents' Orientation Handbook (pgs. 3-6) for more information on our school gate opening hours and staggered dismissal arrangement.

### **2. What is the arrangement for pick-up from the side gate at dismissal?**

Pupils leaving school by the Side-Gate will be dismissed from the classrooms at 1.30pm. They are to be expected at the Side-Gate by about 1.35pm.

### **3. Are parents allowed to be present in school or visit the pupils during recess time for the first week of school?**

Pending an update in national posture expected in mid-December, we should be able to share more information with regard to the first day of school and recess thereafter. We will reach out to parents via Parent Gateway.

## **B. Recess & Snack Break Matters**

### **1. What time is recess for Primary 1?**

Recess for Primary 1 starts at 9:45am and ends at 10:15am.

### **2. Should we pack food or give pocket money to my child for recess during the first week of school?**

As the Primary 1 pupils are beginning a new experience in a Primary School, many will be adjusting to the change. To help your child along, and to provide some familiarity, please pack food for recess for the first day. Thereafter, your child can slowly ease in to buy food from the canteen.

Pocket money of \$2.00 should be sufficient for most pupils. There will be teachers and preassigned parent volunteers on duty in the canteen to guide and assist the pupils in buying food, when necessary.

### **3. What are the food available at the school canteen?**

We have a variety of halal and non-halal food sold in the canteen such as rice, noodles, sandwiches, fruits and drinks.

### **4. What time is the snack break for Primary 1?**

Snack break for Primary 1 pupils starts at 12pm. It is a 10-minutes break time for the pupils to have a quick snack in class.

Simple and healthy dry finger food like breads, fruits and biscuits are recommended.

### **5. Will there be a buddy system?**

Due to Safe Management Measures (SMM), there will be no buddying of pupils for recess in 2021. Teachers and preassigned parent volunteers to each class will be on duty at the canteen to provide assistance to the Primary 1 pupils.

## **C. Primary 1 E-Orientation**

### **1. Can we have access to the P1 E-Orientation slides?**

The set of slides have been uploaded to the school website. You can click on the link below to access the slides:

<https://ststephens.moe.edu.sg/our-events/intake-2021-p1-e-orientation>

## **D. Attire and Possessions**

### **1. Are mobile phones and smart watches allowed in school?**

Pupils are strongly discouraged from bringing mobile phones to school. Pay phones are available in the school canteen and outside the General Office for pupils' use.

If mobile phones are brought to school, they must be switched off during curriculum hours. Switching on mobile phones during curriculum time, playing games or carrying out recording of any kind may result in mobile phones being confiscated.

## **2. Are there restrictions on the type of mask pupils can wear?**

The use of masks will continue to be mandatory. Masks that closely and completely cover the nose and mouth should be worn. There is presently no restriction on the type of masks that can be used in school.

Please click on the link below to refer to MOH's guide on the use of masks:  
[www.moh.gov.sg/news-highlights/details/guidance-for-use-of-masks-and-face-shields](http://www.moh.gov.sg/news-highlights/details/guidance-for-use-of-masks-and-face-shields)

## **3. Are there any restrictions on the type of school bag pupils are allowed to bring?**

No, there is no restriction on the style or design of the school bag pupils can bring. However, please refrain from bringing branded and/or expensive school bags and stationery to school.

## **4. Can pupils come to school in their P.E. attire in view of the Covid situation?**

Should SMM still be observed, pupils can put on either the P.E. attire or the school uniform to school.

## **5. I did not purchase the school tie. Where can I get it?**

The school tie can be purchased from the School Bookshop.

## **6. When should pupils don their school tie?**

As a mark of respect, pupils who wear the school uniform are required to put on their ties every day for the flag-raising ceremony. They may remove their ties during curriculum time.

## **E. Others**

### **1. Is there a specific language book required for the Silent Reading Programme?**

On Monday-Wednesday, pupils are required to bring an English language story book for silent reading. On Thursday and Friday, pupils should bring a story book in their own Mother Tongue for silent reading.

### **2. Is there a chaperone for my child in his first week of school?**

During the first week of school, besides the Form/Subject Teacher in the class, there will also be parent volunteers preassigned to every class to help address the needs of the pupils.

During recess, teachers and preassigned parent volunteers to each class will be on duty at the canteen to provide assistance to the Primary 1 pupils.

### **3. Is there a parent portal?**

Yes, information from school will be disseminated through Parent Gateway (PG).

### **4. Will there be Assembly in 2021?**

Pending an update in national posture, morning assembly will be conducted daily at 7.30am in the classroom.

### **5. What is the CCA programme like for P1 pupils?**

There is no CCA for Primary 1. CCA for pupils begins from Primary 3 onwards.

### **6. What curriculum books/stationery should we bring for first day of school?**

Please refer to the Parents' Orientation Handbook (pgs. 14-19) for the things to prepare for first day of school.

### **7. How does parents and teachers communicate on an ongoing basis?**

Parents can communicate with teachers via emails or the Student Diary. Parents are strongly encouraged to check the Student Diary on a daily basis with regard to homework.

After the first day of school, teachers may work out a separate communication platform (eg classdojo) with parents of the class. Please await patiently for further instructions from your child's Form Teacher.